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and lengthy faunal lists, especially works on deep-sea forms have appeared, as well as important anatomical papers. Important papers on the myriopods appeared in 1883, and of entomological literature there appeared important anatomical and morphological as well as palæontological works and papers, besides some faunal works of value. We shall in another place draw attention to recent discoveries which have not been quoted in our entomological notes. It is enough to take one's breath away to be told that the number of new genera described in 1883 was 1079, while the Arachnida have yet to be heard from.

As we have said in former years the Zoölogical Record is of immediate and pressing value to American students, and it is surprising that more copies are not taken by our working naturalists.

MILLSPAUGH'S AMERICAN MEDICINAL PLANTS.¹—This is a promising work now issuing in parts, each containing six colored lithographic plates, and from ten to fifteen pages of descriptive text. Upon each plate are shown the characteristic portions of some plant with dissections of the floral organs, or the fruits and seeds. The drawings are generally accurate and the coloring is good. Of course one need not look in a work like this for that degree of accuracy and finish which we are accustomed to see in the drawings by Isaac Sprague, but still they answer their purpose admirably, of enabling the student to identify the different medicinal plants of his flora.

Five parts (composing Fascicle 1) of this publication have already appeared, including thirty plates. The whole work will contain 180 plates, and it is the intention of the publishers to complete it within two years. The low price at which it is offered (five dollars per fascicle) places it within reach of everyone who is interested in the medicinal plants of the country. It will also be found an interesting and valuable addition to the library of the botanist.—*Charles E. Bessey.*

PHILOSOPHIC ZOÖLOGY BEFORE DARWIN.²—"The evolution of ideas," says the author in his preface, is much like that of "living beings." They ordinarily arise in an humble way, and lie concealed among older ideas, become confounded with them, but slowly they become differentiated, attain a certain strength, transform and die, after having engendered other ideas of a similar kind." The book is an extremely interesting and suggestive one as will be seen by the following titles of the chapters: first ideas on the place of animals in nature; Aristotle; the Roman period;

¹ *American Medicinal Plants*; an illustrated and descriptive guide to the American plants used as homœopathic remedies; their history, preparation, chemistry and physiological effects. By CHARLES F. MILLSPAUGH, M.D. Illustrated by the author. Boericke & Tafel, New York and Philadelphia.

² *La Philosophie Zoölogique avant Darwin*. Par EDMOND PERRIER. Bibliothèque scientifique internationale. XLV. Paris, 1884. 8vo, pp. 292.

the middle ages and the renaissance; evolution of the idea of species; the philosophers of the eighteenth century: Buffon, Lamarck, Geoffrey St. Hilaire, Cuvier. Discussion between Cuvier and Geoffrey Saint Hilaire, Goethe, Dugès, the natur-philosophers, the theory of organic types and its consequences; Agassiz; the lower animals; the cellular theory and the constitution of the individual embryology, the species and its modifications.

CANADIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—The Canadian Geological Survey has published a descriptive sketch of the physical geography and geology of Canada, which has been prepared to accompany a new geological map of the Dominion on a scale of forty miles to one inch. The description of the eastern section is by the Director of the Survey, Dr. Selwyn, and of the western part by Dr. G. M. Dawson. The maps are a valuable addition to geological science, as embodying the latest explorations of the survey, particularly on the Pacific coast, as also in Newfoundland.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY OF MINNESOTA.—The report is mainly devoted to Mr. Herrick's final report on the Crustacea of Minnesota, which has been already noticed in this magazine, and also to Mr. Warren Upham's catalogue of the flora of Minnesota.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

- Martin, H. N.*—A correction of certain statements published in the "Zoöphilist," also a castigation and an appeal. Baltimore, 1885. From the author.
- Jackson, A. W.*—On the morphology of Colemanite. Bull. Cal. Acad. of Sciences, Jan., 1885. From the author.
- Derby, O. A.*—Physical geography and geology of Brazil. Rio Janeiro, 1884.
- On the flexibility of Itacolumite. Ext. Amer. Jour. of Science, 1884. Both from the author.
- Rice, W. N.*—The geology of Bermuda. From Bull. No. 25 U. S. National Museum, Washington, 1884. From the author.
- Sharp, B.*—Homologies of the vertebrate crystalline lens. Ext. Proc. Nat. Sci., Phil., 1884. From the author.
- Frazer, P.*—Address read before the Royal Society of Canada, May, 1884. From the author.
- James, J. F.*—The Fucoids of the Cincinnati group. Ext. Jour. Cin. Soc. Nat. Hist., 1884. From the author.
- Kollmann, J.*—Hohes Alter der Menschenrassen. Zeitschrift für Ethnologie, Berlin, 1884. From the author.
- Ryder, J. A., and Puysegur, M.*—Papers on the development and greening of the oyster. Washington, 1884. From the authors.
- Geinitz, H. B.*—Ueber die Grenzen der Zechsteinformation und der Dyas überhaupt. From the author.
- Crosby, W. O.*—Origin and relations of continents and ocean basins. Ext. Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist.
- On the relations of conglomerate and slate in the Boston basin. Ext. idem.
- On the chasm called "Purgatory" in Sutton, Mass. Ext. idem. All from the author.
- Oliver, C. A.*—A correlation theory of color perception. Ext. Amer. Jour. Med. Sci., 1885. From the author.